

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-02 /005 R

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APPROVED BY: IO/TRC- MR. GRIP

EA/PRCM:OVARMSTRONG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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FOR USREP ICAO

FOLL REPEAT STATE 064413 ACTION PEKING TOKYO USUN TAIPEI

INFO HONG KONG PARIS 30 MAR 74 QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: SPECIAL PRC FLIGHTS TO US

REF: STATE 64237

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OTHER QUESTIONS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. FOR
TAIPEI: IN ANSWERING PRESS QUERIES, YOU MAY NOT WANT TO
GO BEYOND SIMPLE STATEMENT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND PRC
REQUESTED US PERMISSION FOR TWO TRIAL FLIGHTS AND A
LATER FLIGHT TO BRING OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO NEW YORK FOR
UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, AND THAT PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED.

1. QUESTION: CAN YOU COMMENT ON THE REPORT OUT OF TOKYO
THAT A PRC AIRCRAFT WILL FLY TO THE US ON MARCH 30, AND
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THAT A LATER FLIGHT WILL TAKE THE PRC DELEGATION TO NEW

YORK FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA?

ANSWER: THE PRC LIAISON OFFICE CONTACTED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MARCH 28 TO REQUEST PERMISSION FOR TWO TEST FLIGHTS LEADING TO A THIRD FLIGHT WHICH WILL TAKE ITS DELEGATION TO NEW YORK FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE

UNGA. THEY STATED THAT THE AIRCRAFT WOULD BE BOEING 707'S. A SIMILAR REQUEST WAS MADE TO OUR UN MISSION BY THE PRC'S UN MISSION IN NEW YORK. THE PRC HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT WE HAVE GRANTED PERMISSION FOR THESE FLIGHTS. THE PRC OFFICIALS STATED THAT FIRST TRIAL FLIGHT WILL STOP FOR FUELING IN ANCHORAGE AND THEN PROCEED TO NEW YORK; THE SECOND TRIAL FLIGHT IS SCHEDULED TO REACH NEW YORK VIA PARIS. THE ROUTING FOR THE THIRD FLIGHT HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED.

2. QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC SCHEDULES?

ANSWER: FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THOSE DETAILS.

3. QUESTION: WILL THERE BE US ESCORT PERSONNEL ON THE FLIGHTS?

ANSWER: WE ARE DISCUSSING THAT POINT WITH THE PRC LIAISON OFFICE.

4. QUESTION: ARE THESE PRC GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT?

ANSWER: THE AIRCRAFT BELONG TO THE CIVILIAN AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA, WHICH IS THE CIVIL AVIATION ARM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRC. THE CHINESE HAVE STATED THAT THESE ARE DIPLOMATIC FLIGHTS.

5. QUESTION: DO WE HAVE A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH THE PRC? IF NOT, HOW CAN THESE FLIGHTS TAKE PLACE?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT HAVE A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH THE PRC. AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR SCHEDULED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMERCIAL SERVICES, BUT NOT FOR SPECIAL FLIGHTS LIKE THESE.

6. QUESTION: ARE WE TRYING TO NEGOTIATE A CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT WITH THE PRC?

ANSWER: WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE TIME WHEN THERE WILL BE CIVIL AIR LINKS BETWEEN THE US AND THE PRC, BUT THERE

ARE NO ACTIVE NEGOTIATIONS NOW.

7. QUESTION: HOW MANY BOEING 707'S DO THE CHINESE HAVE?

ANSWER: THEY HAVE CONTRACTED FOR 10, AND I BELIEVE 8
HAVE BEEN DELIVERED.

8. QUESTION: HAVE US CIVIL AIRCRAFT FLOWN INTO THE PRC?

ANSWER: YES, ON SPECIAL FLIGHTS. I DON'T HAVE ALL THE
DETAILS, BUT I BELIEVE THE MOST RECENT SUCH FLIGHT WAS
LAST FALL, WHEN THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA WENT TO
CHINA. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE064413
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/TRC:CGRIP:CLARA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740472/aaaacnuz.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 STATE 64237, USED BY DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN O, ACTION POSTS MAY, ALSO ON IF ASKED BASIS, DRAW ON THIS, MATERIAL IN DEALING WITH PRESS OR OT
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <31 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECIAL PRC FLIGHTS TO US
TAGS: ETRN, CH
To: MONTREAL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005